

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

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R 170912Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3370

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

UNCLAS TOKYO 13082

DEPT PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE FOR MEEKER, FRASER, MINYARD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EAGR JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE BEEF QUOTA

1. BACKGROUND: WITH THE LIFTING OF THE SIXTEEN MONTH BEEF EMBARGO IN LATE JUNE AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A 10,000 MT GENERAL QUOTA FOR THE 1ST HALF OF JFY 1975 (APRIL-SEPTEMBER), THE JAPANESE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (MAF) THRU THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI) DESIGNATED THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY PROMOTION CORPORATION (LIPC) TO BE THE SOLE AGENT FOR BEEF IMPORTS INTO JAPAN.

UNDER THIS INITIAL QUOTA, IT NOW APPEARS THAT LIPC RATHER THAN ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTING A "GLOBAL" QUOTA, WAS ALLOTING QUOTA TO SPECIFIC REGIONS. LIPC'S METHOD FOR OPERATING THIS SYSTEM WORKS AS FOLLOWS:

A. LIPC NOTIFIES IMPORTERS BY TENDER SPECIFYING CUTS, GRADE, ORIGIN, (SIC**) DELIVERY DATE, QUANTITY AND PRICE OF BEEF TO BE IMPORTED.

B. LIPC ISSUES AN ORDER SHEET TO SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS (IMPORTERS)

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C. MITI ISSUES AN ALLOTMENT CERTIFICATE TO THE IMPORTERS.

D. WORKING THROUGH AND USING A FOREIGN EXCHANGE BANK'S IMPORT LICENCE, THE IMPORTER IMPORTS.
 E. THE BEEF CLEARS CUSTOMS AND QUARANTINE.
 F. LIPC ACCEPTS DELIVERY AND AUCTIONS OR SELLS AT A FIXED PRICE TO DESIGNATED BEEF END USERS, I.E. MANUFACTURERS, WHOLESALE MEAT OUTLETS, ETC.
 G. LIPC MAKES PAYMENT TO IMPORTERS WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DELIVERY.

2. NEW QUOTA:
 UNDER THE 20,000 MT GENERAL QUOTA ANNOUNCED ON AUGUST 29,1975 THE SYSTEM WORKS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY ONLY IN THAT 1,600 MT CAN BE IMPORTED AND SOLD BY IMPRTERS RATHER THAN THRU LIPC. THE REMAINING 18,400 MT MUST BE ALLOTTED & PURCHASED BY LIPC.

3. ANALYSIS:
 FOLLOWING IS A TABLE WHICH DETAILS HOW ALLOTMENTS ARE BEING

DISTRIBUTED BY ORIGIN:						
MODE OF 1ST QUOTA			2ND QUOTA)			
PACKING (10,000 MT)			(18,400 MT)			
NORTH			NORTH			
OCEANIA	AMEICA	TOTAL	OCEANIA	AMERICA	TOTAL	
FROZEN	9,400	100	9,500	16,700	200	16,900
CHILLED	410	90	500	1,200	300	1,500
	9,810	190	10,000	17,900	900	18,400
PRIVATE ALLOTMENT						
1,600 MT						
(ANY ORIGIN)						
FROZEN		1,120				
CHILLED		480				
1,600						

4. FYI, MR H TOMINAGA, ASST DIRECTOR, MEAT AND EGG DIVISION, ANIMAL INDUSTRY BUREAU, MAF WILL BE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE AT FAO MEAT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ROME FROM SEPT 22, GATT MEAT CONSULTATION MEETING FROM SEPT 29 AND GATT MEAT SESSION FROM OCT 6.

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